



State of Maryland

Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene/Planning Council

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary, DHMH

MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL ON MENTAL HYGIENE/ PL 102-321 PLANNING COUNCIL

Minutes

November 19, 2013

Maryland Advisory Council Members: Gerald Beemer, Sarah Burns, Chair; Mike Finkle, Joshana Goga, Dennis McDowell, Joanne Meekins, Robert M. Pender, Charles Reifsnider, Anita Solomon, John Turner

Maryland Advisory Council Members Absent: Richard Blair, Jaimi L. Brown, M. Sue Diehl, Vice Chair; Michele Forzley, Edwin C. Oliver, Livia Pazourek, John Scharf, Sherrie Wilcox

Individuals highlighted as such are resigned members who have not yet been replaced.

PL 102-321 Council Members Present: T.E. Arthur, Coordinator; Naomi Booker, Eugenia W. Conolly, Chicquita Crawford, Herb Cromwell, Jan Desper, R. Terence Farrell, Ann Geddes, Victor Henderson, Julie Jerscheid, Sharon Lipford, George Lipman, Cynthia Petion, Sarah Rhine, Kathleen Ward, Phoenix Woody

PL 102-321 Council Members Absent: Lynn Albizo, Robert Anderson, Michael Bluestone, Kate Farinholt, Nancy Feeley, Vira Froehlinger, A. Scott Gibson, Gerri Gray, Adrienne Hollimon, Frank Kolb, Michael Lang, William Manahan, Dan Martin, Jacqueline Powell, Linda Raines, Sheryl Sparer, Michelle Stewart, Jane Walker

MHA Staff Present: Brian Hepburn, Robin Poponne, Carole Frank, Iris Reeves, Greta Carter

Guests and Others:

Jacqueline Pettis, ValueOptions@Maryland;
Tim Santoni, University of Maryland-Systems Evaluation Center;
Brian Davis, American Health Lawyers Association

c/o Mental Hygiene Administration

Spring Grove Hospital Center – 55 Wade Avenue – Dix Building – Catonsville MD 21228 – (410) 402-8473

TDD for Disabled – Maryland Relay Service (800) 735-2258

Healthy People in Healthy Communities

INTRODUCTIONS/ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order by Planning Council Coordinator, T.E. Arthur, and Sarah Burns, Chair presided over the second half of the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves. The draft minutes of the October 15, 2013 meeting were approved as written. Approved minutes are posted on the Mental Hygiene Administration's (MHA) Web site at www.dhmfh.maryland.gov/mha. The Maryland Advisory Council on Mental Hygiene's link is listed under "Resources".

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Maryland Coalition of Families for Children's Mental Health (MCF) will hold its 14th annual Celebration Luncheon on Friday, December 6, 2013 at the Hilton Baltimore BWI Airport Hotel. For further details you may email info@mdcoalition.org or call 410-730-8267.
- Annapolis Day - A Family Day rally, sponsored by the Mental Health Coalition, will take place on February 5, 2014. All mental health advocacy organizations will be represented, holding open sessions with consumers and breakout sessions with selected legislators. Please hold the date. More details will be forthcoming.
- Anita Solomon, Ph.D. presented, "A Team/Resource Approach to Complex Cases in Resolving Conflict and Violence in a Psychiatric Setting" as part of the On-grounds Professional Continuing Medical education (CME) Programs at the Spring Grove Hospital Center (grand rounds) on November 21, 2013

THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

MHA's Executive Director, Brian Hepburn, M.D., provided the following Director's Report:

Dr. Hepburn attended the Rosalyn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy, a two-day Conference in Atlanta. During this event, Secretary Kathleen Sibelius, of the federal Health and Human Services agency, announced that the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (which essentially requires doctors and insurers to give access to treatment of mental illness the same as they would for physical illnesses) signed into law in 2008, now has implemented requirements and final rules that will increase its effectiveness. Even prior to this, Maryland required insurance companies to meet parity as standard for participation in ACA. Additionally, Dr. Hepburn, DHMH Secretary Scharfstein, and Howard Goldman, Executive Director of the University of Maryland Behavioral Health Systems Improvement Collaborative, gave presentations which emphasized the strengths of Maryland's Public Mental Health System.

Budget:

MHA has been able, to date, to keep expenditures below its appropriations. The FY 2015 budget is being formulated. Maryland's Department of Budget Management will meet in December to finalize the budget and send it to the Legislature in early January.

Behavioral Health Integration:

The final stakeholder meeting will take place on November 20, to discuss elements of the draft Joint Chairmen's Report (JCR) which includes discussions on: the goals of a behavioral health model; how the model can serve various populations; the fiscal impact; and statute concerns. This information will be finalized and submitted to the Legislature. The draft JCR and information on the November 20th stakeholder meeting have been disseminated to Joint Council members. Maryland is currently in phase 3 of the BHI process and is moving forward with the Department's decision to implement a performance-based carve out of mental health and substance abuse services. The proposal to establish the carve-out as the health care financing method will be submitted to the Legislature in January or February of 2014.

Affordable Care Act:

The Health Benefits Exchange (which sets standards for ACA in Maryland) has submitted its report to the Legislature. Since ACA became in effect in Maryland on October 1, there have been some roll-out challenges. Some of these challenges are a result of less expensive insurances that were more affordable but covered less. Now the benefits package has expanded its minimum standards and not all insurance companies are choosing to continue and many may choose to raise rates. However, the program is moving forward with success.

Medicaid expects to expand its enrollment by 250,000 which will include 83,000 individuals currently enrolled in the Primary Adult Care Program (PAC). As of January 1, 2014 this group of individuals will become eligible for full Medicaid benefits under the Medicaid Expansion. Enrollment of PAC participants have increased over the last several years and data trends note that participants in this program tend to have less severity of mental illness and more complex substance use issues.

COALITION/ADVOCACY REPORTS/STATE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

State Agency Report

Victor. Henderson, Director of Research and Evaluation, Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD), provided an update on Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) [(PROMISE)]. Maryland was selected to receive \$31 million as part of the U.S. Department of Education's initiative for states to improve outcomes for youth with disabilities receiving SSI. This initiative will be led by MDOD in partnership with other state agencies such as DHMH, MSDE, DORS, DJS, DHR, DLLR, DDA, Medicaid, as well as Way Station, Inc. Maryland's efforts will focus on improved education and employment outcomes for children ages 14-16 who receive SSI, as well as their families.

Beginning in FY 2014, eligible youth in Baltimore, Prince George's, and Montgomery counties, as well as Baltimore City, will be engaged in a pilot study which will offer interventions such as:

- Intensive case management
- Skills development, education, job training, and job information
- Career and work-based experiences as integral or adjunctive to educational services
- Benefits counseling and incorporation of Motivational Interviewing (person-centered goal directed skill to enhance counseling methods or approaches)
- A minimum of one paid work experience

Please see attachment #1 for further information.

On Our Own of Maryland (OOOMD) Summit on Behavioral Health - Update

Mike Finkle, Executive Director of OOOMD, shared information and results from the Summit, "Visionary Conversations: Information, Innovation, Integration", which took place on November 5, 2013 at Columbia, MD which included a plenary discussion from federal, state and local leadership and four break-out groups which focused on the integration of mental health and substance use, peer services, and specific populations. There was also a sharing of milestones in mental health in Maryland beginning in 1963 to the present. Approximately 200 people participated. Notes from the presentations and the discussions are being compiled into a White Paper with recommendations which will be submitted to Kennedy Krieger as well as other behavioral health entities that sponsored the summit.

Community Provider Updates

Herb Cromwell, Executive Director, Community Behavioral Health (CBH), shared information on a behavioral health provider focused meeting with Governor Martin O'Malley on October 29, 2013. This meeting was arranged by the board of Upper Bay Counseling and Support Services, Inc. of Cecil County. Representation from DHMH and MHA were also present. Among the topics discussed were the challenges providers faced of operating with a lower reimbursement rate during an inflated economy.

In support of behavioral health integration efforts, CBH has also been dialoging with the Maryland Addictions Directors Council (MADC) on future collaborative efforts. Meanwhile a solid relationship is being forged. Also, Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth (MARFY), a non-profit association of over 50 child and family services agencies throughout Maryland is considering future efforts to combine with CBH in areas of mutual concern.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Cynthia Petion announced that the annual meeting for the Planning Committee of the Joint Council to review the Implementation Report of the FY 2013 State Mental Health Plan will take place on November 19, 2013, from 11:45am to 1:00pm in the first floor conference room of the Mitchell Building. The materials to be reviewed consist of: the final status reports on the strategies accomplished during the FY 2013 fiscal year and elements of the Mental Health Block Grant Implementation Report. The Mental Health Block Grant Implementation Report, which is due to SAMHSA-CMHS on December 2, 2013, will be submitted by the end of November.

The Behavioral Health Council Workgroup, comprised of representatives of the Joint Council and the State Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council (SDAAC), has been meeting periodically since the summer of 2012 to continue the discussion toward efforts to develop a "behavioral health council". In December, there will be a combined meeting of both councils. This will take place on **December 11, 2013. This is a different date from the usual Joint Council meeting time and will take the place of the regular meeting.** The Behavioral Health Council Workgroup will lead a discussion of next steps and plans for a **March 18 Retreat for members of both councils.** If you have any questions, please contact Robin.Poponne@maryland.gov or Greta.Carter@maryland.gov.

The meeting was adjourned.

There will be no Executive Committee meeting. The Planning Committee will meet following the general meeting to review the Implementation Report of the FY 2013 MHA State Mental Health Plan.

Please note, the Agenda for the December 11th Behavioral Health Council meeting will be posted on the Advisory's Council's web page, under the resources section, on MHA's Web site www.dhmh.maryland.gov/mha.